

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring and congratulating Saint Sava Serbian Orthodox Church in Merrillville, Indiana on its 100th anniversary. The members and church leaders have dedicated themselves to upholding Serbian heritage, tradition, and the Orthodox faith. For their noteworthy commitment to serving so many in need, the congregation is worthy of the highest praise.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND
SERVICE OF SENATOR ALAN J.
DIXON

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 2014

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and celebrate the life and service of former United States Senator to the State of Illinois, Alan J. Dixon, who recently passed away at his home in Fairview Heights, Illinois, on Sunday, July 6, 2014, one day short of his 87th birthday.

Sen. Dixon, born in Belleville, Illinois, on July 7, 1927, led a life dedicated to service to the great State of Illinois and to our nation. He received his bachelor's degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and his law degree from Washington University in St. Louis. He also served our nation in the Navy Air Corps during World War II.

Sen. Dixon began his political career as a member of the Illinois House of Representatives, for which he served from 1951 to 1963. He followed that by serving as a member of the Illinois State Senate from 1963 to 1971. In 1970 he was elected Illinois State Treasurer and then Illinois Secretary of State from 1976 until 1981. In 1981, Sen. Dixon took office as the U.S. Senator from Illinois, a position he held until 1993.

Sen. Alan Dixon, who served the State of Illinois for more than four decades, was known as someone who got along with everyone. He happily would work with his colleagues across the aisle in order to get things done, a characteristic that is in short supply today. He also was recognized for his hard work, honesty, and gentlemanly conduct. Following his career as a public servant, Sen. Dixon returned to practice law with the Bryan Cave law firm in St. Louis.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to again commemorate the life and service of Senator Alan J. Dixon. I am very grateful for his service to our State and Nation. His passing weighs especially heavy on my family and I, as my father had the distinct honor to serve as his Chief of Staff for 23 years. Sen. Dixon is survived by his wife, Jody, three children, eight grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren. It is my hope that I can live up to the example he has set forth as a statesman.

CONGRATULATING DANSBY SWAN-
SON, 2014 COLLEGE WORLD SE-
RIES' MOST OUTSTANDING
PLAYER

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 2014

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Marietta native and Vanderbilt second baseman, Dansby Swanson, on his accomplishments in the 2014 NCAA College World Series.

Swanson was awarded the College World Series' Most Outstanding Player Award and was an incredible asset in helping Vanderbilt clinch its first College World Series Championship.

Throughout the 2014 season, Swanson became one of the key players on Vanderbilt's tremendously talented roster and was key in Vandy's 3–2 victory over the University of Virginia in the final to cap off a landmark 50 win season.

Just a sophomore, Swanson batted .323 with five runs scored and two RBI in Omaha—the most impressive performance of any player in the tournament.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Georgia's 11th Congressional District, I applaud Dansby for his achievement and look forward to his future successes. I extend my enthusiastic congratulations to him on achieving the highest level of recognition possible in the NCAA College World Series.

IN HONOR OF ESTONIA'S SONG
AND DANCE FESTIVAL

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 2014

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the people of Estonia who from July 4 to 6 completed their remarkable Song and Dance Festival in the capital of Tallinn. The festival, which takes place once every five years and attracts roughly 100,000 visitors and participants, is a cornerstone of Estonian cultural tradition and has been named one of UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage events. It is something the Estonian people, and indeed the entire Baltic region, should be rightly proud of.

Such celebrations of independence are particularly important during this time. We continue to support our friends in Estonia, and indeed our friends and allies in all of Europe, as they face the threat of increased Russian aggression. Now is as important a time as any for the U.S. to reaffirm its commitment to Estonia and the Baltic states.

Mr. Speaker, the American people have a long and proud history of supporting Estonians

as they rejected authoritarianism, gained their independence and built the vibrant, modern country they have today. Estonia has likewise been a great friend to the United States. I am certain that this relationship will continue far into the future. Once more, congratulations to all of Estonia on such a successful festival.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF MR.
MICHAEL MURPHY

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 2014

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Michael Murphy, and offer my condolences to his family and friends in light of his passing.

In his time as Grays Harbor County Commissioner and his years at the Washington State Auditor's Office he worked tirelessly for the community and local governments. His voice and support will be greatly missed.

Murphy graduated from Central Washington University and began his public service as a Radarman in the U.S. Navy. After his service he came to Washington, DC, and worked as an aide to U.S. Representative Don Bonker.

In 1977, he was elected to the Grays Harbor County Commission where he served for 11 years. During his tenure he worked to establish Vance Creek Park, the Grays Harbor County Fairground Pavilion, and helped preserve Grays Harbor's public forests. Under his leadership Grays Harbor became the only county in the state to manage its own tax-title timberlands, rather than grant that authority to the state.

After his time as a county commissioner, Murphy joined the Washington State Auditor's Office in 1996, and as Local Government Liaison worked closely with local governments who trusted him as a result of his excellent reputation and his intimate knowledge with the challenges of local government.

Murphy was an avid outdoorsman and sportsman, and a dedicated public servant. He had a passion for his work, for the people he served, and for the Pacific Northwest. He served for a time as Chairman of the State Liquor Control Board, and helped found what would become Venture Bank. As President of the Washington State Association of Counties he also advocated on behalf of local governments at the state legislature.

Mr. Speaker, Washington State and our nation owe a debt of gratitude to Michael Murphy for his dedication to serving the needs of those he worked for while helping local governments remain effective and efficient. His work and his experience left Washington better able to provide for its citizens. I am pleased to recognize his service to the community and honor his legacy today in the United States Congress.